Self sufficiency in natural gas

1020. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's production of natural gas is adequate to meet its domestic requirement;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve the self sufficiency in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) India's production of natural gas is not adequate to meet its domestic requirement. The Report of the Working Group on Petroleum & Natural Gas for the Eleventh Plan has estimated a total demand of 179.17 Million Standard Cubic Metres Per Day (MMSCMD) for the year 2007-08. The gas availability for the year 2006-07 was about 96 MMSCMD, including about 23 MMSCMD of imported Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

(b) Gas production from many major fields, given to ONGC and OIL on nomination basis, has crossed its plateau and entered its declining phase. Commercial production from fields given under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) is yet to reach a significant level.

(c) The Government of India has initiated various steps to augment gas supplies for the domestic market. These cover:—

(a) Intensification in domestic E&P activities;

(b) Exploitation of Coal Bed Methane (CBM) gas;

(c) Implementation of Natural Gas Hydrate Programme (NGHP) for evaluation of hydrate resources and their possible commercial exploitation;

(d) LNG Import; and

(e) Gas sourcing through transnational gas pipelines.

Renovation of Gopalpur sea beach

1021. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Orissa propose to develop and renovate its Gopalpur sea beach to boost tourism and

(b) if so, the action plan of Government to help the State both financially and physically in their mission with a view to improve the economy of this backward region?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Tourism, Government of India has sanctioned Central Financial Assistance of

Rs.447.22 lakh for Development of Gopalpur-on-Sea in Ganjam distt. of Orissa in the year 2005-06.

An amount of Rs.7235.39 lakh has been sanctioned to the State Government for various tourism projects in the State of Orissa during the Tenth Plan period.

Tourism project of ITDC

1022. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether ITDC propose to develop Bhubaneswar, Puri and Satpada as a mega tourism project in Orissa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a Centrally-funded project; and

(d) the details of the infrastructure that is proposed to be developed to boost tourism in this region?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (d) A project for development of Bhubaneswar-Puri-Chilka as a circuit has been received from the State Government.

Project proposals received from the State Governments/Union Territories that are complete in all respects are examined on the basis of scheme guidelines and *inter-se* priority and funds released subject to availability under the respective heads.

A project – Integrated Development of Tourist Circuit - Bhubaneswar-Dhauli-Puri-Konark has been sanctioned for Rs.720.09 lakh in the year 2005-06.

An amount of Rs.7235.39 lakh has been sanctioned to the State Government for various tourism projects in the State of Orissa during the Tenth Plan period.

Promotion of tourism in Orissa

1023. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have evolved a 20-year plan to promote tourism;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action of Government to develop tourist, religious and historic centres in Orissa to boost tourism under this project, with a view to improve its economy?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) As development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State